



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/942,893  
Applicant(s): Hironori SUMITOMO and Noriyuki OKISU  
For: IMAGE TAKING APPARATUS  
Confirmation No.: 9827  
Customer No.: 24367  
Docket No.: 15162/03910  
Filed: August 30, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2615  
Examiner: Yogesh K. Aggarwal

**MAIL STOP RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The following is a Preliminary Amendment, which is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination.

This Preliminary Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated June 13, 2005, which provides for a response period ending September 13, 2005.

A Petition for Extension of Time, to extend the response period for the Office Action, dated June 13, 2005, for three additional months to December 13, 2005, is being filed concurrently.

Application No. 09/942,893  
Preliminary Amendment dated December 13, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of June 13, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: